

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the Application is requested.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

“Claims 1-22 are rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by Want et al. (US 5,564,070).”

Applicant's Response

Applicant has amended claims 1, 18 and 21 for clarification.

The aim of the present invention is to protect the access to personal computer applications of a computer station connected to an inter-computer communication network, for example a personalized e-mail. Normally this access to personal applications is automatic when a personal portable object is near to a read unit connected to the station. In the embodiment shown, this object is a wristwatch. In the method of claim 1, an identification code is specific to the portable object, i.e. the readable word of a memory (storage means) of the electronic circuit of the object, has to be searched and detected after transmission to a determined server in a checking file of said server. If the readable word is found in the file, a password is sent from the checking file to storage means in which access words are kept secret by a read and/or write barrier in order to allow opening the read barrier. It is understood that access words are kept secret without having checked the authorised word in a list or file.

The method of checking the readable verification word of the portable object in a file of the server before sending a password for opening the read and/or write barrier of the storage means allows, in the event of loss or theft of the portable object, for making the

object inactive by ending its validity via any communication means related to the determined server. So personal computer applications can not be opened by the loss or theft object in inactive state.

The reference, US Patent 5,564,070 to Want et al., describes a method and a system for maintaining processing continuity to mobile computers in a wireless network. For that, a personalized portable tab includes signal transmission and reception means, a storage means in which addresses of applications can be stored, and a display. Said tab can communicate wireless at short-range with a read unit connected to a network computer. Thanks to this connection, information can be displayed on the tab for informing of the location in a room for example. The computer station includes an agent able to control the authorization of any application to request communication with the specific mobile unit. So, if some applications are personalized for a specific tab, the agent manages this communication between the tab and the computer application, which is entirely different of the present invention.

The reference to Want et al. does not describe a tab with a storage means which includes a read and/or write barrier to prevent access to specific applications of the computer without authorization as the present invention. This barrier can be opened only if a verification word in a readable part of the storage means has been checked in a checking file located in a server not directly connected to the computer station, but connected by the internet for example to the computer station. This procedure for sending the verification word is automatic since the tab or portable object is located near to the read unit. Once the verification word has been found in the file of the server, a password from the server is transmitted to the electronic circuit of the portable object in order to open the read and/or write barrier. After that, addresses of applications can be transmitted from the storage means

of the portable object to the computer station in order to open said personalized applications.

There is no comparison between the agent of the computer which is described in the cited Want et al. reference with the barrier of the storage means of the portable object. Furthermore, in the cited Want et al. reference, there is not described a check of the verification word of the portable object in a checking file of a specific server which is not an agent of a computer. This check allows, in the event of loss or theft of the portable object, to make said object inactive by ending its validity via any communication means related to the determined server. So personal computer applications can not be opened by the missing object in an inactive state.

Claims 2-22 depend from claim 1, and provides further definitions of what Applicant regards as his invention and should be allowed for at least the same reasons discussed above.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

“Claim 1 is also rejected under 35 USC 102(e) as being anticipated by Diamant et al. (US 6,202,153).”

Applicant's Response

Diamant et al. discloses a “method for selectively connecting computer stations to a plurality of communication devices, including the steps of receiving a connection request from a computer station to connect to a requested one of said plurality of communication devices, disconnecting the selected computer station from all of the communication devices, detecting if the selected computer station is configured according to the requested communication device, and connecting the selected computer station to the requested communication device, when the selected computer station is configured according to the requested communication device.”

However, the reference to Diamant et al. does not describe a portable object with a storage means which includes a read and/or write barrier to prevent to access to specific applications of the computer without authorization as the present invention. This barrier can be opened only if a verification word in a readable part of the storage means has been checked in a checking file located in a server not directly connected to the computer station, but connected by the internet for example to the computer station. This procedure for sending the verification word is automatic since the portable object is located near to the read unit. Once the verification word has been found in the file of the server, a password from the server is transmitted to the electronic circuit of the portable object in order to open the read and/or write barrier. After that, addresses of applications can be transmitted from the storage means of the portable object to the computer station in order to open said personalized applications.


Thus, claim 1 should be allowed over the reference to Diamant et al.

Conclusion

Applicant requests that this Amendment be entered and a Notice of Allowance be issued.

Respectfully submitted,

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